Knight-Hennessy Scholars
Stanford University

Knight-Hennessy Scholars (KHS) cultivates and supports a multidisciplinary and multicultural community of graduate students across Stanford University, and delivers engaging experiences that prepare graduates to be visionary, courageous, and collaborative leaders who address complex challenges facing the world.

All scholars are Stanford graduate students, and join Knight-Hennessy Scholars in addition to enrolling in a graduate degree program at any of Stanford’s seven schools.

Leadership
Knight-Hennessy scholars participate in up to three years of programming that complements their graduate studies and prepares them to take on leadership roles in academia, industry, government, nonprofits, and the community at large.

Community
A new cohort joins each year, adding to a diverse community of scholars across disciplines, nationalities, perspectives, and backgrounds. Scholars learn together, collaborate on impactful projects, and develop lifelong friendships.

Funding
Scholars receive a fellowship for up to three years of tuition, depending upon their degree length. In addition, scholars receive a stipend for living and academic expenses, and a travel stipend for one annual trip to and from Stanford.

AT A GLANCE (2018-2024)

514 Scholars to date

75 Countries of citizenship

45% Hold a non-U.S. passport

17% First-generation college graduate

97 Stanford degree programs

Among U.S. citizens/residents:

51% Identify as a person of color

9% U.S. military

Degree totals unequal to 100% due to dual degrees
Knight-Hennessy Scholars selects a cohort of up to 100 graduate students enrolling at Stanford each autumn quarter.

**Eligibility**
There are no restrictions based on citizenship, age, college or university, field of study, or career aspiration.

**Leadership Program**
The leadership program builds upon the domain expertise scholars gain in their Stanford graduate programs. It includes workshops, lectures, projects, and experiences that strengthen transformational leadership capabilities.

**Criteria**
In applicants, KHS looks for evidence of independence of thought, purposeful leadership, and a civic mindset.

**Core offerings** bring together the full KHS community – for Town Halls to preview the quarter ahead, for weekly Storytelling training and practice, and for quarterly McMurtry Leadership Lectures to hear from experienced leaders. Scholars actively engage with one another and speakers throughout. Scholars attend one weekend retreat each year for leadership development and to build community.

**Elective events** focus on specific themes each quarter. Curiosity Corner discussions with faculty from across campus stimulate multidisciplinary learning. KHeystone Projects are year-long, scholar-led collaborations aimed at addressing important regional or global issues. And Global Travel/Study trips provide exposure to different cultures and viewpoints.

**Scholar-Driven Events** are academically or culturally-enriching experiences led by scholars for scholars. Examples include Deep Dive, where one scholar interviews another about their life journey, and KH Geographic, where scholars share information about their home country.

**Admission**
Each incoming Knight-Hennessy scholar must also be a newly enrolling student in a full-time Stanford graduate program or a current Stanford PhD student in their first year of enrollment.

**Applicants must submit separate applications:**

**Knight-Hennessy Scholars application:** The KHS application to join the 2025 cohort is due by October 9 at 1:00 pm PT. It includes a resume, transcript, short-answer and essay questions, and letters of recommendation.

**Stanford graduate program application:** These application deadlines and requirements vary by degree program.

Register for an information session or admission Q&A at kh.stanford.edu

Follow us on social media: @KnightHennessy

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